the ordinary magic

wakes up at four
yawns
pores over papers and prepares
drives in after a dozen years
and teaches kids to think
sighs
thinks about their thinking
(until thoughts are like so
many blueberries—
hands stained with ink,
eyes straining to distinguish one blueness
from another,
lips numb from the bittersweet
taste of process)
thinks again and
hums on

—DENISE ABERCROMBIE

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A veteran English and theater teacher, DENISE ABERCROMBIE has published work in The Minnesota Review, Writing on the Edge, The Yale Global Health Review, and elsewhere. She helps coordinate Curbstone Foundation’s Poetry in the Park series at Julia de Burgos Park in Willimantic, Connecticut. Denise can be reached at abercrombie.denise@gmail.com.